

1984 WL 249957 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

August 10, 1984

*1 Major D. E. Blackwell
Spartanburg Public Safety Department
City of Spartanburg
Post Office Box 546
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29304-1749

Dear Major Blackwell:

In a letter to this Office you questioned whether a motorist must come to a complete stop before making a right turn on a red traffic signal.

[Section 56-5-970\(c\)\(3\), Code of Laws of South Carolina](#), 1976, as amended, states:

'[e]xcept when a sign is in place prohibiting a turn, vehicular traffic facing any steady red signal may cautiously enter the intersection to turn right or to turn left from a one-way street into a one-way street after stopping as required by item 1 or 2.'

It is clear that the requirement to stop emphasized in the above-referenced quote is applicable to both a right turn on red and a left turn into a one-way street. Therefore, pursuant to such provision, and in consideration of the requirements of 56-5-970(c) (1) and (c)(2) mandating complete stops at red lights, a motorist must make a complete stop before turning right on a red signal.

If there are any questions concerning the above, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Richardson
Assistant Attorney General

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